

of the Republic. This negotiation, in which the Republic has lost 10 millions, has been extremely disagreeable to me. There was no difficulty as to the other conditions save for the MSS., which they did not want to give up; on that score, too, we had to come down from two or three thousand to five hundred.

*July 2d, Bologna:*

I saw at Florence the famous Venus, for which there should be room in our Museum, and a collection of anatomical models .in wax which it would be desirable to acquire. Fontana is willing to undertake having these copied for us. It would cost little, and would be of advantage to us in a matter so useful to humanity.

Our art commissioners behave well and work hard. The scientists have garnered a fine harvest at Pavia.

I am starting for Mantua. I expect to open the trenches on the 9th. The enemy will probably manoeuvre to relieve the fortress; we shall then engage, if necessary.

5th, Roverbella:

(To General Despinoy.) Hurry on the artillery; don't go to sleep among the pleasures of Milan; and whatever you do, don't write letters to upset our poor chief of staff, who, ever since you mentioned a lovely actress who awaits him in Milan, is dying of impatience to get there.

(To Josephine.) I am dead tired. Please start at once for